

Santa Barbara Public Library System
Library Board

Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of February 22, 2011 held at Central Library

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Eric Friedman; Christine Roberts;
Catherine Radecki-Bush

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

COUNCIL LIAISON PRESENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Irene Macias, Library Director
Roger Hiles, Library Services Manager

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was brought to order in the Faulkner
Gallery East at 3:05 p.m. on February 22, 2011

CHANGES TO AGENDA:

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: November, 2010 minutes were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Next regular meeting will be March 10, 2011 at 3:00 pm
in the Faulkner Gallery, East.

Library Plaza Project

The architectural firm Campbell & Campbell has been awarded the contract for the Library Plaza Project. In addition, the City Council authorized a loan agreement in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 to provide for the Agency's repayment of expenses incurred by the City for the design and construction of the Library Plaza Renovation Project.

Introduction of new Library Services Manager

Roger Hiles, the newly appointed Library Services Manager was introduced to the Board. Roger's responsibilities will include operational and facilities responsibility for the Central Library. In addition, he will oversee automation and computer operations for the system.

Election of new Chair and Vice Chair

It was agreed that with two board members absent from this meeting; the election of a new Chair and Vice Chair will be deferred to the March Board Meeting.

Review of Quarterly Performance Measures

Director Macias reviewed the 2nd Quarter Performance Measures with the Board.

Some items discussed: number of meetings and events at Central and Eastside are down; staff will be reviewing meeting room policy to consider changes that might result in increased bookings; the walls in the Faulkner Galleries will be recarpeted in May, making the spaces more attractive.

Many performance measures are down due to reduced staffing levels or closing on Mondays. The Central and Eastside Libraries are now closed on Mondays as the libraries eliminated 4.5 positions due to reduced budgets,

Library Director's Report

The Library Plaza Project has received a lot of public attention. At the February 15 Council meeting, Councilmembers reported receiving complaints that the City was spending money on a capital project to make improvements on the exterior of the Central Library when there is not sufficient funding to keep the library open on Mondays. The Councilmembers expressed their support of the Library and the services it provides to the community. Both Mayor Schneider and Councilmember Bendy White have both expressed their desire to keep the library open on Mondays and will raise the issue during the upcoming budget hearings.

Stakeholders meetings for the Library Plaza Project will begin in April. It will take approximately nine months for design, and then the project will go back to the RDA Agency Board for approval of final design.

The Library Department is anticipating revenue reductions in the coming fiscal. The Governor's budget has proposed the elimination of funding to public libraries. State is considering no fund (meaning a loss of approximately \$30,000 to the library). This includes monies that support library cooperatives such as Black Gold. The SBPL system stands to lose nearly \$200,000 in revenues if the funding is eliminated.